

REMARKS

In the Final Office Action mailed June 18, 2008, the Examiner stated that claims 47 and 48 "would be allowable if rewritten in independent form." In order to advance prosecution, Applicants amend independent claims 1 and 24 to incorporate the elements of dependent claims 47 and 48 respectively. Claims 47 and 48 have been canceled. Accordingly, each of the pending claims 1-31 and 49-56 (as amended) is believed to be in form for allowance.

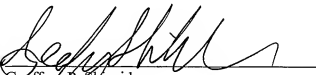
Although Applicants have amended certain claims to advance prosecution, Applicants believe that, before amendment, the claims contained patentable subject matter. As such, Applicants reserve the right to pursue claims of the same or similar scope in the future.

It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed. However, the absence of a reply to a specific rejection, issue, or comment does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue, or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above may not be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

Please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 6/30/08


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